

CLAIMS

1. A safety device including a releasable clip, the releasable clip having an elongated main gripping element, and an elongated moveable gripping element having a first and second ends, the main gripping element having a retaining element to retain the first end of the moveable gripping element; the main gripping element retaining the second end of the moveable gripping element in a predetermined position such that the clip may grip a fabric tube or the like between the main gripping element and the moveable gripping element; a gas generator being provided which responds to a supply signal to move the second end of the moveable gripping element to release the grip.

2. A safety device according to Claim 1 further comprising an outlet duct, the outlet duct being sealed by the releasable clip.

3. A safety device according to Claim 1 wherein the safety device includes an air-bag.

4. A safety device according to Claim 1 wherein the safety device includes a pretensioner.

5. A safety device according to Claim 1 wherein a plurality of the releasable clips are provided, each of the clips being associated with a respective outlet duct.

6. A safety device according to Claim 1 wherein the main gripping element is in the form of a hollow cylinder, and the second end of the elongated moveable gripping element is configured to fit over or within the hollow cylinder; there being a gas generator supplying gas to the interior of the hollow cylinder in response to the supply signal to move the second end of the moveable gripping element.

7. A safety device according to Claim 6 wherein the second end of the moveable gripping element is a piston moveable within the hollow cylinder.

8. A safety device according to Claim 7 wherein the hollow cylinder has a terminal inward projection to retain the piston in the hollow cylinder.

9. A safety device according to Claim 7 wherein the second end of the moveable gripping element comprises a closure cap dimensioned to close an open end of the hollow cylinder.

10. A safety device according to Claim 1 wherein the gas generator is a pyrotechnic squib.

11. A safety device according to Claim 1 wherein the gas generator is a source of compressed gas.

12. A safety device according to Claim 1 wherein the first end of the gripping element and the retaining element comprises a retaining lug provided on the main gripping element.

13. A safety device according to Claim 1 wherein the main gripping element is in the form of a cylindrical housing, and the moveable gripping element has inclined resiliently mounted walls to engage the exterior of the cylindrical housing of the main gripping element.

14. A releasable clip for a safety device, the releasable clip including a main gripping element in the form of an elongated hollow cylinder defining a first and second end, the main gripping element first end having a retaining bracket, and the second end of the main gripping element being opened, a moveable gripping element having a first and a second end, the first end of the moveable gripping element received by the retaining bracket, the second end of the moveable gripping element obstructing the second opened end of the main gripping element, a gas generator in the hollow cylinder, the releasable clip in a first predetermined position gripping a duct of the safety device between the main gripping element and the moveable gripping element, and in response to a supply signal supplying gas within the hollow interior moves the moveable gripping element second end disengaging the moveable gripping element second end from the retaining bracket to release the gripping of the duct.

15. A safety device according to Claim 14 wherein the safety device includes an air-bag.

16. A safety device according to Claim 14 wherein the safety device includes a pretensioner.

17. A safety device according to Claim 14 wherein a plurality of the releasable clips are provided, each of the clips being associated with a respective outlet duct.

18. A safety device according to Claim 14 wherein the second end of the moveable gripping element is a piston moveable within the hollow cylinder.

19. A safety device according to Claim 18 wherein the hollow cylinder has a terminal inward projection to retain the piston in the hollow cylinder.

20. A safety device according to Claim 14 wherein the second end of the moveable gripping element comprises a closure cap dimensioned to close an open end of the hollow cylinder.

21. A safety device according to Claim 14 wherein the gas generator is a pyrotechnic squib.

22. A safety device according to Claim 14 wherein the gas generator is a source of compressed gas.

23. A safety device according to Claim 14 wherein the main gripping element is in the form of a cylindrical housing, and the moveable gripping element has inclined resiliently mounted walls to engage the exterior of the cylindrical housing of the main gripping element.